The Jesse Tree

This holiday season Faith magazine invites you to enjoy a retelling of the story of the family tree of Jesus—the Jesse tree.

In the month before Christmas, the church anticipates the coming of Jesus through readings that span from the Old Testament creation story through Jesus' birth. Jesse, for whom the tree is named, is the first person in the genealogy of Jesus. At the top of this family tree are Mary and Jesus. Depicted in church windows and artwork for hundreds of years, this visual tree of life may even have been a forerunner of today's Christmas tree.

All you need for this project is a homemade drawing of a tree. You can also make a Jesse tree by putting a few tree branches in a pot filled with gravel or sand, or using a tabletop Christmas tree on which to hang Jesse tree ornaments.

Reflect on the readings and symbols of this ancient tradition. You can download our symbols on card stock, or print them on paper and glue them to construction paper or felt.

Sharing the Jesse tree story is a great way to help build anticipation for the birth of the Christ child, allowing the roots of faith to take hold and grow.

Download Ornaments
Designed to fit on 8.5 x 11 paper.If PDF files do not open, download the free Adobe Reader.

- Download **2019 Advent reflections** for Jesse Tree
- Download **small ornaments** (3.5 " diameter)
- Download **large ornaments** (7.5 " diameter)

Permission/credit
Thanks very much for your interest in using our free Jesse tree ornaments and the text we wrote to accompany the Scriptures. As always, we are pleased when anyone wants to get them into homes where they can be enjoyed, so there is no charge.

We do ask, however, that you credit as follows: **Illustrations by Carolyn Pikoulas and text by Anne-Marie Welsh for *Faith* magazine, published by the Diocese of Erie.**